



Serial No. 10/688,914

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 5, 13, and 15-20 without prejudice or disclaimer, AMEND claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 12, and 14, and ADD claims 21-25 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A cap assembly comprising:
a cap plate having a port aperture;
an electrode port, including a head and an insertion whose diameter steadily increases from the head to an end thereof, the insertion being inserted into the port aperture up to the head; and
an insulating member formed between the cap plate and the electrode port to insulate the cap plate and the electrode port and to ~~tightly~~ bind the electrode port to the cap plate, wherein the insulating member, the cap plate, and the electrode port form a single integrated body.
2. (ORIGINAL) The cap assembly of claim 1, wherein the insulating member is formed by insert-injection molding.
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The cap assembly of claim 1, further comprising an auxiliary binding unit on a surface of the cap plate, wherein the auxiliary binding unit provides ~~tighter~~ additional binding of the insulating member to the cap plate.
4. (ORIGINAL) The cap assembly of claim 3, wherein the auxiliary binding unit comprises at least one groove formed on the surface of the cap plate, and a portion of the insulating member protrudes into the at least one groove.
5. (CANCELLED)
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The cap assembly of claim ~~5~~1, wherein the insulating member comprises:
a first insulator interposed between the head of the electrode port and a top surface of the cap plate;
a second insulator interposed between an inner wall of the port aperture and an outer surface of the insertion of the electrode port; and
a third insulator laterally extending from the second insulator to contact a bottom surface

of the cap plate.

7. (ORIGINAL) The cap assembly of claim 1, wherein an end portion of the electrode port protruding out of the port aperture is stretched out by spinning to support a surface of the insulating member upward, providing tighter binding between the electrode port and the insulating member.

8. (ORIGINAL) The cap assembly of claim 1, further comprising a port plate on a surface of the insulating member, the port plate being electrically connected to the electrode port.

9. (ORIGINAL) The cap assembly of claim 8, wherein an end portion of the electrode port protruding out of the port aperture is stretched out by spinning to support a surface of the port plate upward, providing tighter binding between the electrode port and the port plate.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A secondary battery comprising:
a battery unit comprising a negative plate, a separator, and a positive plate stacked upon one another and rolled;
a can in which the battery unit is accommodated;
a cap assembly covering a top opening of the can, the cap assembly comprising:
a cap plate having a port aperture,
an electrode port, including a head and an insertion whose diameter steadily increases from the head to an end thereof, the insertion being inserted into the port aperture up to the head, and
an insulating member formed between the cap plate and the electrode port to insulate the cap plate and the electrode port and to ~~tightly~~ bind the electrode port to the cap plate, wherein the insulating member, the cap plate, and the electrode port form a single integrated body; and
electrode tabs drawn out from the negative plate and the positive plate of the battery unit and selectively electrically connected to the can.

11. (ORIGINAL) The secondary battery of claim 10, wherein the insulating member is

formed by insert-injection molding.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The secondary battery of claim 10, further comprising an auxiliary binding unit on a surface of the cap plate, wherein the auxiliary binding unit provides ~~tighter~~additional binding of the insulating member to the cap plate.

13. (CANCELLED)

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The secondary battery of claim ~~43~~10, wherein the insulating member comprises:

a first insulator interposed between the head of the electrode port and a top surface of the cap plate;

a second insulator interposed between an inner wall of the port aperture and an outer surface of the insertion of the electrode port; and

a third insulator laterally extending from the second insulator to contact a bottom surface of the cap plate.

15-20. (CANCELLED)

21. (NEW) The cap assembly of claim 1, wherein the diameter of the insertion linearly increases from the head to the end thereof.

22. (NEW) The cap assembly of claim 1, wherein the end of the insertion is located at the leading end of the electrode port when the electrode port is inserted into the port aperture.

23. (NEW) The cap assembly of claim 10, wherein the diameter of the insertion linearly increases from the head to the end thereof.

24. (NEW) The cap assembly of claim 10, wherein the end of the insertion extends into the can.

25. (NEW) The cap assembly of claim 10, wherein one of the tabs is connected to the end of the insertion.